

## House Resolution 77

By: Representatives Benfield of the 85<sup>th</sup>, Drenner of the 86<sup>th</sup>, Henson of the 87<sup>th</sup>, Chambers of the 81<sup>st</sup>, and Marin of the 96<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the importance of promoting international education and urging Georgia's  
2 colleges and universities to place a high priority on international education; and for other  
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, international education and activities are a critical component of higher  
5 education in Georgia and contribute to the economy of this state and to a diverse college  
6 environment, enhancing both academic and other programs; and

7 WHEREAS, academic and extracurricular programs that are internationally based are critical  
8 to promoting a broadened world view and prepare Georgians for life and work in a global  
9 society; and

10 WHEREAS, international education promotes a diverse academic environment through the  
11 exchange of scholars and students among countries and thereby creates a foundation for  
12 future economic success; and

13 WHEREAS, higher education should emphasize academic programs with an international  
14 focus, including foreign language instruction and study abroad opportunities, in order to  
15 ensure that graduates have the cross-cultural skills necessary to function effectively in the  
16 global work force; and

17 WHEREAS, international students and their families contributed over \$15.54 billion to the  
18 United States economy and over \$331,387,000.00 to the Georgia economy during  
19 2007-2008, and Georgia must ensure its status as a magnet for international students and  
20 scholars; and

21 WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes the social importance of cultural awareness,  
22 the need to promote study abroad programs that serve Georgia students, and the economic

23 significance of international students who come to Georgia for the educational opportunities  
24 provided by this state.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
26 this body recognizes the economic, cultural, and social importance of promoting international  
27 education at Georgia's institutions of higher learning and urges all colleges and universities  
28 located in this state to place a high priority on expanding current opportunities and  
29 developing new programs in all fields of education that are international in scope.